

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-12 ADP-00 SY-10 USSS-00

JUSE-00 ARA-11 EA-11 RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 DOTE-00 RSR-01 /168 W
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P 181626 Z MAY 73

FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3287

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTREAL 1027

FROM US REP ICAO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, CA

SUBJ: ICAO COUNCIL CONSIDERATION LIBYAN AIRLINES INCIDENT
REPORT JUNE 4 TH

REF: MONTREAL 0957 (NOTAL)

1. INFORMAL DISCUSSION WITH UK REP INDICATED COUNCIL MEMBER STATES DO NOT YET HAVE INDICATION POSITION AND NO INDICATION YET OF ARAB STATES APPROACH TO COUNCIL CONSIDERATION. UK EXPECTS NO PARTICIPATION FROM LONDON (INKEEPING WITH THEIR GENERAL POLICY RE COUNCIL MEETINGS) AND HOPES ALL MEMBER STATES WILL KEEP MATTER LOW- KEYED TO EXTENT POSSIBLE.

2. IN DISCUSSION UK REP INDICATED THAT MOURSEY, NEW EGYPT COUNCIL REP, " DESERVED A GREAT DEAL OF CREDIT" FOR PROFESSIONAL UNEMOTIONAL HANDLING OF PROPOSAL TO COUNCIL (C- WP-5734) AND ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 19-1 N. Y. HE
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INDICATED THAT EGYPT AMBASSADOR TO UN AND OTHER MISSION OFFICERS HAD BEEN VERY " HAWKISH" RE THIS MATTER AND WISH TO GO MUCH FURTHER THAN 19-1. AFTER VOTE OF 105-1 SPONSORS OF RESOLUTION FELT THEY COULD HAVE OBTAINED MUCH MORE THAN JUST " CONDEMNATION" WITH A VOTE 70 OR 80 TO SOMETHING. SHOULD THE " HAWKS" TAKE OVER IN CONNECTION WITH PARA. 5 OF EGYPT' S PROPOSAL (ATTACHMENT B TO C- WP-5734) ICAO COUNCIL COULD BE FACED WITH DIFFICULT SESSION. ON THE OTHER HAND, UK REP EXPECTS MOURSEY WILL PREVAIL AND WILL CONTINUE TO HANDLE MATTER IN COUNCIL WITH PERHAPS ONE ADVISOR.

3. UK REP ALSO INDICATED THAT LIBYAN SILENCE IN NY RE 19-1 AND IN COUNCIL SESSION RE 19-1 WAS BECAUSE THEY WERE NOT AT ALL HAPPY WITH THE CONTENT AND FELT IT SHOULD HAVE " GONE MUCH FURTHER". ON THE OTHER HAND ICAO' S FACT- FINDING TEAM REPORT INDICATES THAT THE LIBYAN AIRLINES FLIGHT ITSELF WAS NOT WELL HANDLED, PERHAPS TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO REMAIN SILENT AND LET EGYPT OBTAIN ANOTHER " CONDEMNATION".

4. OTHER CASUAL COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL REPS INDICATED THAT THE REPORT SHOWS THAT THE CREW OF 5 ADAH DID NOT HANDLE THEIR PREDICAMENT WELL HOWEVER, THEY SAY, IT WAS A LOST AIRCRAFT IN DISTRESS AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD HAVE BEEN SHOT DOWN. LACK OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN CONTROL IN THE REGION HAS BEEN RAISED IN INFORMAL DISCUSSION.

5. US REP WISHES POINT OUT THAT ABOVE COMMENTS ARE BASED ON PERSONAL EXCHANGES WITH COUNCIL REPS AND NO POSITIONS CAN BE FIRMED UP UNTIL A) GOVERNMENTS HAVE RECEIVED FACT- FINDING REPORT AND B) ARAB STATES HAVE INDICATED TO ICAO THE APPROACH THEY INTEND TO TAKE IN CONSIDERING THE REPORT. GDS.
TOPPING

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